

**Town Board Meeting  
January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 7:00 P.M.  
Manitowish Waters Community Center**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Town Chairman John Hanson and Board Supervisors Eric Behnke and Chuck Rayala III.

**Approval of Agenda** as posted on January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Approved on motion from Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes** of December 8<sup>th</sup> and December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. Clerk Hilbert pointed out an error that had been corrected on the December 8<sup>th</sup> Minutes. Approved on motion from Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke. Motion carried.

**Visitors Present:** Steve Bartling, Paul Puccinelli, Pat Pohl, Bob Skrobot, Kim Kost, Jody Miller, Rob Hanson, Greg Holt, Chris Troller, Ron Troller, Kevin Griffith, Deb Skrobot and Tyrel Rayala.

**Public Input on Agenda Items:** Kim Kost and Greg Holt requested to speak on the ***Bike Trail Maintenance Agreement*** agenda item. Kim Kost wished to comment on the ***Ilg Property Easement*** agenda item. Bob Skrobot requested the option to discuss the ***Fire Company Lease*** agenda item. Kevin Griffith requested to speak on the ***Appointment of Parks/Trails Committee Members*** agenda item and the ***Web Cam at Koller Park*** agenda item. Steve Bartling, Paul Puccinelli, Kevin Griffith and Greg Holt requested to speak on the ***Grooming the Bike Trail for Fat Tire Biking*** agenda item. Greg Holt asked to comment on the ***Rest Lake Dam*** Standing Committee Review item.

**Subjects from floor:** Chris Troller expressed gratitude for allowing the Snowmobile Club the use of the Bike Trail.

**Old Business:**

**--Bike Trail Maintenance Agreement:** For informational purposes, Eric Behnke shared that his and John Hanson's conditions for the Maintenance Agreement had been included and that the Bike Trail Maintenance Agreement had been signed by both the Town and Elizabeth Uihlein.

**--Ilg Property Easement:** Behnke explained that the Peterson(Ilg) family were looking for a Land Use Agreement with the Town for the section of the Bike Trail that borders their land. Hanson shared information from attorneys for both parties, concluding that the Town was not in a position to enter into any such agreement, as the property in question belongs to Vilas County and the DOT. Eric Behnke added that it would not be in the best interest of the Town to set a precedence of this nature.

**--Fire Company Lease:** Following a meeting with Fire Chief Skrobot earlier in the day, Hanson noted that the Fire Co would like a legal description added to the lease, and also information pertaining to the disposition of the building if the Fire Co were to leave the current premise. Hanson stated that the changes would be incorporated into the document and presented again at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

**-- Appointment of Parks/Trails Committee Members:** A list of 9 applicants was read aloud by Chair Hanson. Chuck Rayala III asserted that he felt strongly that the committee should report to the Planning Commission. Hanson pointed out that the reporting structure of the committee was not on the agenda and that appointing the members was what needed to occur first. Behnke discussed the list, stating that he felt the committee should exist of Manitowish Waters residents only. Hanson made a motion to approve the 9 candidates on the list. Motion died for lack of a second. Behnke motioned to approve the 8 local applicants, eliminating the one non-local resident; the motion was seconded by John Hanson. Behnke – "Aye", Hanson – "Aye", Rayala III – "Nay". Motion carried.

**--Web Cam at Koller Park:** Chair Hanson shared that a private donor was willing to provide a web cam for Koller Park which would possibly deter after hours vandalism. Behnke questioned who would be responsible for maintaining the camera to which Hanson noted that it would likely be EAU. Behnke replied that it should be taken care of by locals. No action taken.

**--Grooming the Bike Trail for Fat Tire Biking:** Steve Bartling spoke at length about Fat Tire Biking and the marketing possibilities it would introduce. He went on to describe a recently developed groomer geared specifically toward maintaining a paved trail for this sport, (and also snow shoeing and cross-country skiing). Although this will probably not get underway until 2016 or 2017, he asked if this could be pre-approved for the Manitowish Waters Bike Trail from Anglers to Boulder Junction, conceding that eventually he would like to see the entire trail included. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III

and seconded by Eric Behnke to approve the entire Manitowish Waters Bike all the way to Boulder Junction for Fat Tire biking; motion carried.

**--Town Hall Architect Selection for Remodeling Project:** Due to a general lack of congruency amongst the Board, this will be revisited at a future meeting.

**--Musky Classic Contract:** The Musky Classic Contract was provided to the Board in Duplicate. A motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III to approve and sign the contract; motion carried.

#### **Addendum Items:**

**--Highway W Bike Trail Bridge:** Following a lengthy discussion as to how much input the Planning Commission and Town Board should have with regard to the design of the Bike Trail, a motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III that Bike Trail Inc. is not allowed to do anything until the Planning Commission approves it. Behnke – “Aye”, Rayala III – “Aye”, Hanson – “Nay”. Motion carried.

**--AFLAC Insurance for Employees:** Hanson explained that AFLAC would like to provide Town employees with a presentation on their insurance services that employees can secure independently. A motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III to accept the invitation from AFLAC; motion carried.

**--FAA Drone Policy per Recommendation from the Airport Committee:** The Airport has the authority to control drone traffic within a five mile radius of the airport. A motion was made by Chuck Rayala III and seconded by Eric Behnke to accept the recommendation of the Airport Committee; motion carried.

#### **Standing Committee Review:**

**-- Vouchers for December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 and January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016:** December 22<sup>nd</sup> vouchers = \$19,998.11 and January 12<sup>th</sup> vouchers = \$1,477,649.96 which included the January tax settlement to the County, State and 3 schools, and also the final payout on the Rest Lake Park Pavilion, (approx \$80,000.00), which was offset by a donation. A motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

**--P & L/Bank Balances:** Information provided to the Board in writing.

#### **Reconciled Bank Balances:**

**(As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015)**

General Account:	\$ 28,158.94
Tax Account:	\$ 1,578,019.69
Investment Account:	\$ 127,972.24

#### **Actual Bank Balances:**

**(To date)**

General Account	\$ 106,466.81
Tax Account:	\$ 367,618.26
Investment Account:	\$ 123,972.24

**--Economic Development Association Report:** Some restructuring of various committees is underway and these committees will report to the Chamber Board. There are some openings on some of the committees that will hopefully be staffed in time for the Chamber’s February meeting.

**--Airport Report:** Reports were provided to the Board in writing. The airport runway project will start in the spring and be completed by July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The airport will have to be completely shut down for approximately one week.

**--Road Report:** Reports were provided to the Board in writing.

**--Bike Trail Report:** The Bike Trail was already covered during previous agenda items.

**--Parks Report:** A meeting will be set up via email for the new committee.

**--Transfer Station Report:** Eric Behnke reported that the last old trash compactor died and should be replaced within the week. Ace Equipment will buy back the old compactor.

**--Rest Lake Dam:** The final draft of the MOU is complete and will be available after the DNR is able to meet with downstream residents to go over the MOU.

**Correspondence:** The 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class of North Lakeland Elementary School will be holding their annual fundraiser dinner on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016. For more information, contact NLEC at 715/543-8417.

A Motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III to Convene to Closed Session pursuant to Wisconsin Statue 19.85(1)(e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public property, investment of public funds, or conducting other specific public business when competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel about strategy regarding current or likely litigation; motion carried. Roll Call – all “Ayes”.

A motion was made by Eric Behnke and seconded by Chuck Rayala III to reconvene to open session; motion carried. Roll Call – all “Ayes”. No action taken during closed session.

**Adjourned: 8:15pm**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dana Hilbert  
Town Clerk/Treasurer